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Fish and Game Commission



Wildlife Heritage and Conservation
Since 1870

June 24, 2015

TO ALL INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES:

This is to provide you with a copy of the notice of proposed regulatory action relative to Section 149 and Appendix A, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, relating to market squid logbooks, which will be published in the California Regulatory Notice Register on June 26, 2015.

Please note the date of the public hearing related to this matter and associated deadlines for receipt of written comments.

Ms. Laura Ryley, Environmental Scientist, Marine Region, Department of Fish and Wildlife, (831) 649-7142 or Laura.Ryley@wildlife.ca.gov, has been designated to respond to questions on the substance of the proposed regulations.

Sincerely,

Sherrie Fonbuena
Associate Governmental Program Analyst

Attachment

TITLE 14. Fish and Game Commission Notice of Proposed Changes in Regulations

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Fish and Game Commission (Commission), pursuant to the authority vested by Sections 7078, 7701, 7708, 8026, 8425 and 8429.5 of the Fish and Game Code and to implement, interpret or make specific Sections 7701, 7708, 8026, 8425, 8429.5, 8429.7, 12159 and 12160 of said Code, proposes to amend Section 149 and Appendix A, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, relating to market squid logbooks.

Informative Digest/Policy Statement Overview

The Market Squid Fishery Management Plan (MSFMP) was developed under the provisions set forth by the Marine Life Management Act (MLMA) and sets goals and objectives to govern the conservation, sustainable use, and restoration of the market squid resource. Section 149, Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR), governs commercial market squid fishing activities off California, pursuant to the MSFMP.

Current regulations prescribe the use of logbooks for the collection of fishing data. Market Squid Vessel Logbook (DFG 149a) and Market Squid Light/Brail Boat Logbook (DFG 149b) are proposed to be updated to bring these forms into compliance with the standards set by the Department of Fish and Wildlife's (Department) Forms Management Coordinator, improve instructions that explain how the logs are to be filled out, and improve the quality of data that are received by the Department. Updated instructions will accompany the forms. The forms and instructions will be inserted as part of CCR, Title 14, Appendix A, and the old forms (DFG 149a (9/01) and DFG 149b (10/05)) will be deleted.

The follow changes are proposed:

- Subsection 149(e) is proposed to be amended to refer to the revised forms entitled with an updated version number "Market Squid Vessel Logbook – DFW 149a (Rev. 05/01/15)", and "Market Squid Light/Brail Boat Logbook – DFW 149b (Rev. 05/01/15)."
- Additional changes are also proposed to improve the organization, clarity and consistency of the regulations.

Benefits of the Regulations

The proposed regulatory action will benefit fishermen, processors, the State's economy, and the environment by maintaining a healthy and sustainable market squid fishery.

Consistency with State Regulations

The proposed regulations are neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing State regulations. Commission staff has searched the California Code of Regulations and statutes and has found no other State regulations related to the take of market squid and no other State agency with authority to promulgate commercial squid fishing regulations.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that any person interested may present statements, orally or in writing, relevant to this action at a hearing to be held in the Embassy Suites – LAX North, 9801 Airport Blvd., Los Angeles, California, on Wednesday, October 7, 2015 at 8:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard. It is requested, but not required, that written comments be submitted on or before September 24, 2015 at the address given below, or by email to FGC@fgc.ca.gov. **Written comments mailed or emailed to the Commission office, must be received before 12:00 noon on October 2, 2015.** All comments must be received no later than October 7, 2015, at the hearing in Los Angeles, California. If you would like copies of any modifications to this proposal, please include your name and mailing address.

The regulations as proposed in ~~strikeout~~-underline format, as well as an initial statement of reasons, including environmental considerations and all information upon which the proposal is based (rulemaking file), are on file and available for public review from the agency representative, Sonke Mastrup, Executive Director, Fish and Game Commission, 1416 Ninth Street, Box 944209, Sacramento, California 94244-2090, phone (916) 653-4899. Please direct requests for the above mentioned documents and inquiries concerning the regulatory process to Sonke Mastrup or Sherrie Fonbuena at the preceding address or phone number. **Laura Ryley, Environmental Scientist, Marine Region, Department of Fish and Wildlife, (831) 649-7142 or Laura.Ryley@wildlife.ca.gov, has been designated to respond to questions on the substance of the proposed regulations.** Copies of the Initial Statement of Reasons, including the regulatory language, may be obtained from the address above. Notice of the proposed action shall be posted on the Fish and Game Commission website at <http://www.fgc.ca.gov>.

Availability of Modified Text

If the regulations adopted by the Commission differ from but are sufficiently related to the action proposed, they will be available to the public for at least 15 days prior to the date of adoption. Any person interested may obtain a copy of said regulations prior to the date of adoption by contacting the agency representative named herein.

If the regulatory proposal is adopted, the final statement of reasons may be obtained from the address above when it has been received from the agency program staff.

Impact of Regulatory Action/Results of the Economic Impact Analysis

The potential for significant statewide adverse economic impacts that might result from the proposed regulatory action has been assessed, and the following initial determinations relative to the required statutory categories have been made:

- (a) Significant Statewide Adverse Economic Impact Directly Affecting Business, Including the Ability of California Businesses to Compete with Businesses in Other States:

The proposed action will not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states. The proposed regulations continue to allow all actively permitted market squid vessels (vessel, light, and brail) to participate in a directed fishery for market squid during the commercial market squid season until the season closes. The proposed regulations update the logbooks currently in use by commercial squid fishermen. These changes are not expected to increase the time spent to complete the log.

- (b) Impact on the Creation or Elimination of Jobs Within the State, the Creation of New Businesses or the Elimination of Existing Businesses, or the Expansion of Businesses in California; Benefits of the Regulation to the Health and Welfare of California Residents, Worker Safety, and the State's Environment:

The Commission does not anticipate any impacts on the creation or elimination of jobs, the creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses, or the expansion of businesses in California.

The Commission does not anticipate any benefits to the health and welfare of California residents or worker safety.

The Commission anticipates benefits to the environment in the sustainable management of a healthy squid resource.

- (c) Cost Impacts on a Representative Private Person or Business:

The Commission is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

- (d) Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State: None.

- (e) Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies: None.

- (f) Programs Mandated on Local Agencies or School Districts: None.
- (g) Costs Imposed on any Local Agency or School District that is Required to be Reimbursed Under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4, Government Code: None.
- (h) Effect on Housing Costs: None.

Effect on Small Business

It has been determined that the adoption of these regulations may affect small business. The Commission has drafted the regulations in Plain English pursuant to Government Code Sections 11342.580 and 11346.2(a)(1).

Consideration of Alternatives

The Commission must determine that no reasonable alternative considered by the Commission, or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the Commission, would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action, or would be more cost effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

Dated: June 16, 2015

Sonke Mastrup
Executive Director